

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

NATIONAL INDOOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE L.L.C.,	:	CIVIL DIVISION
	:	
PLAINTIFF,	:	NO.: CA 2 - 548
	:	
v.	:	TYPE OF PLEADING:
	:	
	:	EXHIBITS TO
R.P.C. EMPLOYER SERVICES, INC.,	:	PLAINTIFF'S BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF
and DAN J. D'ALIO,	:	ITS SIXTH MOTION IN
	:	LIMINE WITH RESPECT TO THE
DEFENDANTS.	:	DAMAGES PORTION OF TRIAL
	:	
	:	
	:	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
	:	
	:	FILED ON BEHALF OF:
	:	
	:	PLAINTIFF
	:	
	:	COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF:
	:	
	:	TIMOTHY C. LEVENTRY, LL.M.
	:	LEVENTRY, HASCHAK & RODKEY,
	:	LLC
	:	PA I.D. 34980
	:	1397 EISENHOWER BOULEVARD
	:	RICHLAND SQUARE III, SUITE 202
	:	JOHNSTOWN, PA 15904
	:	(814) 266-1799

EXHIBITS

- A. Service Agreement
- B. Court's March 16, 2006 Order

RPC Employer Services, Inc. Service Agreement

This Agreement is made and entered effective this 20th day of March, 2001, by and between RPC Employer Services, Inc. ("RPC"), an Ohio Corporation located at 7771 Raglan Dr. NE, PO Box 8605, Warren, Ohio 44484, and;

Company Name: National Indoor Football League, L.L.C.
Address: PO Box 8628
City: Warren
State: Ohio
Zip: 44484
EIN or SSN: 94-3387642 (Ohio Corporation)

1. **STAFFING**

RPC hereby agrees to furnish to Client, and Client hereby agrees to engage from RPC, staffing for all Job Function Positions.

2. **TERM OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement shall commence on the **EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE** set forth below and shall continue in effect of the initial term ("Initial Term") of one (1) year following the commencement of this Agreement. This Agreement may thereafter be extended by mutual consent of both RPC and Client from month to month "Extended Term". During the Initial Term, RPC or Client may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination to the other party thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of said termination. During the Extended Term, either party may terminate this Agreement upon giving written notice thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of said termination. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, RPC may terminate this Agreement immediately upon twenty-four (24) hours notice to Client in the event of a material breach by Client of any of the provisions to this Agreement.

2a. PAYROLL REPORTING: Commencing with the **EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE**, and according to the payroll processing frequency itemized on the **FEE STRUCTURE STATEMENT** page, the Client must report employee wages in a timely manner so as to allow RPC to process and distribute payroll and related benefits in accordance with Federal and State guidelines. Should client fail to report wages each and every pay period, RPC shall reserve the right to immediately terminate this agreement pending payment in full of all obligations. Client shall be solely responsible for all wages and applicable taxes pertaining to unreported wages. If Client requests to activate service with RPC in the future, then Client would be required to meet normal underwriting guidelines in order to initiate new service.

3. **FEES**

a. Client shall pay RPC a fee (the "Fee") as specified in the Fee Structure Statement attached hereto and made a part hereof. The Fee shall be paid in full, by wire transfer, direct bank debit, certified check or money order and delivered to RPC not less than twenty-four hours prior to the distribution of any payroll checks for such period. Any failure by Client to make payment as set forth shall render Client in default of this Agreement and constitute a material breach hereof, and any Employee(s) assigned to Client shall be transferred to Client effective the last day of the preceding pay period for such Employee(s).

b. The Fee shall consist of the following items: all payroll (inclusive of bonuses, holiday pay, sick leave pay, vacation pay and/or other special payments), all applicable federal, state and local taxes, including all applicable Federal Insurance Contributions Act, Federal Unemployment Tax Act and Medicare Coverage payments, all premiums and contributions in connection with any employee retirement or other benefits including, but not limited to, all health, accident disability or other insurance premiums, all workers' compensation premiums including any required deposits not charged as part of the set-up fee, all unemployment compensation charges, and a service fee (the "Service Fee") for the administrative services of RPC.

EXHIBIT

tabbies

A

RPC Employer Services, Inc.

Service Agreement

c. During the Initial Term of this Agreement, RPC may not adjust the Fee except for statutory increases in employment taxes or insurance or any change in the Job Function Positions required by Client. During the Extended Term of this Agreement, RPC may adjust the Fee for statutory increases in employment taxes or insurance or any change in the Job Function Positions required by Client, or upon thirty (30) days prior written notice.

d. Any increase in the Fee for statutory increases in employment taxes or insurance or any change in the Job Function Positions shall be effective on the date of such increases or change.

e. Client agrees to verify all time sheets or other evidence of time submissions by Employees (as defined in Paragraph 13.)

4. CLIENT DEPOSIT

a. RPC reserves the right at any time during the term of this Agreement to require Client to deposit such funds or provide such other guaranty as RPC in its sole discretion, may determine from time to time to guarantee the performance of Client hereunder. The deposit shall be in an amount equal to one (1) payroll cycle as calculated for each Client. The waiver by RPC of this requirement at any time shall not stop or act as a waiver of RPC's right to require a deposit at any subsequent time during the term of this Agreement.

b. In the event Client fails to maintain the required deposit from time to time as determined at the sole discretion of RPC the same shall be termed to be a material breach of this Agreement.

c. On termination of this Agreement, any balance remaining in the account of Client shall be remitted to Client on or before [sixty (60)] days after the termination of this Agreement, provided that Client has performed all of its obligations under the terms of this Agreement.

d. Any moneys of Client in possession of RPC hereunder may be applied to RPC to any default in any payments by Client under the terms of this Agreement.

5. INSURANCE

a. Workers' Compensation Insurance

RPC shall furnish and keep in full force and effect at all times during the term of this Agreement workers' compensation insurance covering all Employees filling Job Function Positions under the terms of this Agreement, and where applicable, such policies shall designate Client and RPC respectively, as the first and second named insured. In addition, RPC shall cause that appropriate evidence of insurance be filed with the Worker's Compensation Bureau of any state as deemed necessary by the Client.

b. Automobile Liability Insurance

If any Employee filling a Job Function Position is to drive a vehicle of any kind for Client, Client shall furnish automobile liability insurance covering said vehicle and said Employees. The policy of automobile insurance shall insure against public liability for bodily injury and property damage, with a minimum combined single limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) and uninsured motorist or personal injury protection, or equivalent coverage, of at least the minimum limits required by the state where such "no fault" laws apply. Client shall cause its insurance carrier to name the Employees and RPC as additional named insured and loss payees, and to issue a Certificate of Insurance to RPC whereby RPC is provided not less than (30) days advance notice of cancellation or material change in any such automobile liability insurance coverage. RPC shall be the Certificate Holder for purposes of making claims thereunder.

c. General Liability Coverage

Client agrees to cause its insurance carrier to name RPC and Client's employees as additional insured on Client's general liability insurance policy, and shall issue a Certificate of Insurance evidencing same to RPC whereby RPC is provided not less than thirty (30) days notice of cancellation or material change in said general liability insurance policy. The minimum requirements of said general liability insurance policy shall be One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) combined single limit including, but not limited to, where applicable, premises, operations, products, completed operations, contractors, personal injury, host liquor liability, independent contractors and full liquor liability. In the event, Client renders professional services, a professional services rider on said general liability and extended coverage policy shall be required as

RPC Employer Services, Inc.

Service Agreement

applicable. Said professional services liability coverage shall, depending on the business activities of Client, and upon the written request of RPC provide for minimum limits of coverage of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

d. Group Medical Insurance

After the completion of a specified probationary period, each Employee filling a Job Function Position may elect within the enrollment period at his or her cost, to be covered by a group medical insurance policy offered by RPC. Each Employee may elect additional coverage by reimbursing RPC the actual cost of the extra coverage. In the event an Employee is terminated or is otherwise unavailable to reimburse RPC for coverage elected, Client shall reimburse RPC for any premium dollars advanced by RPC on behalf of the Employee.

e. Retirement Plan Each employee filling a Job Function Position may voluntarily participate in a 401k Plan provided by RPC to the extent such plan is in existence.

f. Excluded Coverage

RPC shall not be responsible and shall not furnish insurance for claims involving discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to claims involving age, sex, race, religion, equal pay, national origin, disability, marital status, veteran status or sexual preference. Client agrees to indemnify and hold RPC harmless for any and all liability for such claims resulting from acts or omissions of Client or any director, officer, employee, or other agent of Client, as further described in Paragraph 9. Any damages, attorneys' fees or expenses awarded to an Employee or his/her representative as a result of any such claims will be paid by Client.

g. Subrogation

Client hereby waives any claim in its favor against RPC by way of subrogation or indemnification which may arise during the Initial Term or any Extended Term of this Agreement or any and all loss of, or damage to, any of the Client's property or for bodily injury which loss, damage or bodily injury is covered by insurance to the extent that such loss is recovered under such policies of insurance as are required in this Agreement.

h. Specific Continuing Covenant

Client and RPC each agree to keep in full force and effect, at all times during the Initial Term and any Extended Term of this Agreement, all insurance policies required under this Agreement.

6. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

a. General

Client agrees, at its expense, to provide reasonable accommodations for all Employees having a disability as defined in Title 1 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

b. Americans With Disabilities Act

Client agrees, at its expense to provide reasonable accommodations for all Employees having a disability as defined in Title 1 of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Client also agrees to indemnify and hold RPC harmless from any and all claims arising from Client's failure to provide reasonable accommodations, and for any expenses incurred by RPC for having to make reasonable accommodations as a result of Client's refusal to do so, as further described in Paragraph 9.

7. ADMINISTRATION

RPC acknowledges that it is responsible for such administrative employment matters as the payment of all federal, state and local employment taxes, the providing of workers' compensation coverage, and the providing of non-obligatory fringe benefit programs for the Employees.

8. WORK ENVIRONMENT

Client agrees that it will comply with all laws, regulations, ordinances, directives and rules imposed by controlling federal, state and local government authorities including, but not limited to, The Americans With Disabilities Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Family Medical Leave Act. If applicable, and that it will within twenty-four (24) hours,

RPC Employer Services, Inc.

Service Agreement

report all accidents and injuries to RPC. Client agrees to comply, at its expense, with any specific directives from the workers' compensation insurance carrier, if any, or any governmental agency having jurisdiction over the work place or the Employees' health and safety. Client shall provide and ensure use of all personal protective equipment as required by federal, state or local law, regulations, ordinances, directives or rules, or as deemed necessary by RPC or by its workers' compensation carrier, if any. RPC workers' compensation carrier, if any, has the right at any scheduled mutually convenient time, to inspect Client's premises and operations, but is not obligated to undertake such inspections. RPC or its carrier, if any, may give reports to the Client of the results of any inspections. Neither any carrier nor RPC warrants the results of any such inspections or the absence thereof, or that the operations and/or premises are in compliance with any laws regulations, codes or standards.

9. HOLD HARMLESS

Client hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold RPC harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, judgments, fees, expenses and costs (including court costs and attorneys' fees) and liabilities and obligations of any nature whatsoever, contingent or otherwise, known or unknown, as though expressly set forth and described herein, which Client may incur, suffer, become liable for, or which may be asserted or claimed against Client arising out of or related to the acts, errors or omissions of Client or any director, officer, employee or other agent of Client, including, without limitation, any and all claims in any way related to the matters contained in Paragraph 5(f) and 6 or any violation of this Agreement by Client or RPC's efforts to enforce this indemnity. Client shall take all reasonable measures to inform creditors and other third parties that all Employees assigned to Client to fill the Job Function Positions are employees of RPC, and that RPC is not responsible for Client's debts, acts, errors or omissions except as specifically set forth in this Agreement.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, RPC shall not be liable in any in any event for Client's loss of profits, business, goodwill, or other consequential, special, or incidental damages.

10. LATE CHARGE

Should payment of any amounts due RPC not be made when due, Client shall pay a monthly late charge at a rate of one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) per month on all past due invoices, or the maximum rate permitted by law, whichever is less.

11. DEFAULT

Client shall be in default of this Agreement, and said default shall constitute a material breach hereof, if:

- a. Client shall fail to pay the Fee;
- b. Client shall fail to report timely employee wage information each and every pay period
- c. Client shall commit any act that interferes with the rights of RPC as the employer of the Employees provided under this Agreement;
- d. Client shall fail to provide any insurance required under this Agreement;
- e. Client shall fail to comply with any law, regulations, ordinance, directive, or rule regarding the health and safety of Employees from RPC's workers compensation carrier, if any or any governmental agency;
- f. Client shall commit any act that disrupts any of the rights of RPC as the employer of the Employees provided for under this Agreement;
- g. Client or any guarantor of Client's obligations hereunder shall generally not pay its debts as they become due;
- h. Client or any guarantor of Client's obligations hereunder shall admit its inability to pay its debts or shall make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors;
- i. Client or any guarantor of Client's obligations hereunder shall commence any case, proceeding or other action seeking to have an order for relief entered on its behalf as debtor or to adjudicate it a bankrupt or insolvent, or seeking reorganization, arrangement, adjustment, liquidation, dissolution or composition of it, or its debts, under any law relating

RPC Employer Services, Inc.

Service Agreement

to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or relief of debtors or seeking appointment of a receiver, trustee, custodian or other similar official for Client or for all or any substantial part of Client's property;

- j. Client or any guarantor of Client's obligations hereunder shall take any corporate or other action to authorize or to contemplate any of the actions set forth above; or
- k. Client shall fail to comply with any applicable governmental law, regulation, ordinance, directive or rule, whether federal, state or local.

12. EFFECT OF BANKRUPTCY OR INSOLVENCY

In the event any of the actions specified in the immediately preceding paragraph occurs, RPC shall have no further obligation to advance any funds on behalf of Client pursuant to this Agreement for any purpose whatsoever unless RPC shall have such funds in its possession at the time any payment or advance is due under this Agreement.

13. EMPLOYEES

For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Employee," whether singular or plural, shall mean such individuals as shall be assigned by RPC to fill the Job Function Positions of Client under this Agreement. All such individuals covered by this agreement shall be deemed to be assigned to Client on a permanent basis.

14. WARRANTY

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING CONTAINED HEREIN TO THE CONTRARY, RPC MAKES NO COVENANT, REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY, OR AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, TO CLIENT OR ANY OTHER PARTY WITH RESPECT TO THE PERFORMANCE BY EMPLOYEES OF SERVICES RENDERED TO CLIENT AS CONTEMPLATED HEREUNDER. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL RPC TOTAL LIABILITY OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY CLAIMS HEREUNDER REGARDLESS OF THE FORUM AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ANY ACTION OR CLAIM IS BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHERWISE) EXCEED THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID BY CLIENT TO RPC AS SERVICE FEES HEREUNDER (DETERMINED AS OF THE DATE OF ANY FINAL JUDGMENT IN SUCH ACTION).

15. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Entire Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the parties hereto with respect to the covenants contemplated hereby, and supersedes all prior oral and written agreements and understandings of the parties relating to the subject matter hereof.

b. Attorneys' Fees

In the event that any action is brought by either party hereto as a result of a breach or a default in any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party in such action shall be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in addition to any other relief to which the party may be entitled.

c. Survival of Agreement

All covenants, representations, warranties, and agreements made herein shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement. Wherever in this Agreement reference is made to any of the parties hereto, such reference shall be deemed to include the corporate successors in interest, legal representatives, heirs, assigns, and any other successors of such party.

d. Construction

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced under the substantive, and not conflicts, laws of the State of Ohio. The forum for any litigation hereunder shall be the federal or state, as appropriate, courts located in Trumbull County, Ohio. An action for breach of this Agreement or any other action otherwise arising out of or related to this Agreement must be commenced within one (1) year from the date

RPC Employer Services, Inc. Service Agreement

the right, claim, demand or cause of action shall first occur, or be barred forever. The headings appearing herein are for convenience only, and are without legal effect.

e. Waiver of Breach

Failure by either party at any time to require performance by the other party or to claim a breach of any provision of this Agreement will not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach nor affect the effectiveness of this Agreement, nor any part thereof, nor prejudice either party with regard to any such subsequent action.

f. Notices

Any notice or demand to be given hereunder by either party to the other shall be effected by personal delivery in writing or a certified mail, postage paid, return receipt requested, and shall be addressed to the party's principal place of business set forth above, but each party may change the address by written notice in accordance with this paragraph.

g. Validity

This Agreement shall be valid and enforceable only after it has been signed by both parties. In the event any term, warrant, covenant, condition, or provision of this Agreement is held to invalid or unenforceable, the balance of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall stand as if the unenforceable part did not exist.

h. No Partnership

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary herein, RPC, under this Agreement or by any action taken pursuant hereto, shall not be deemed a partner, joint venture, or joint employer with Client.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date and year first written above.

RPC EMPLOYER SERVICES, INC.

By: 

Daniel J. D'Alto, President

Date 3-27-01

NATIONAL INDOOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE, L.L.C.

By: 

Carolyn Shiver, President

Date 3/21/01

NOTICE: THIS AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE HOME OFFICE AND SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS APPROVAL IS GRANTED AS EVIDENCED BY THE ABOVE ENDORSEMENT OF AN OFFICER OF RPC EMPLOYER SERVICES, INC.

EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE:

Based on each team's first game of the 2001 season according to the official published schedule, which shall be made a part of this agreement.

RPC Employer Services, Inc.

Service Agreement

FEE STRUCTURE STATEMENT

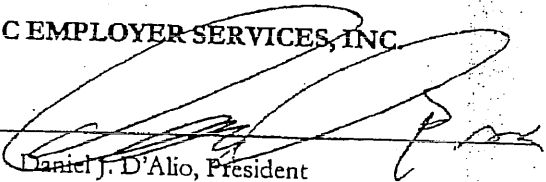
Description	Amount	Per
Payroll Frequency:		Weekly
Service Fee:		
Players, coaches	\$18.00	Person per weekly pay period
Office Staff	\$12.00	Person per weekly pay period
FICA (Employer Match)	7.65%	Of taxable wages up to taxable limits
FUTA (Federal Unemployment)	0.80%	Of taxable wages up to taxable limits
SUTA (State Unemployment)	2.75%	Of taxable wages up to taxable limits
Workers' Compensation:		
-Players, Coaches, Code 9179:	11.65%	Per \$100 of Payroll
-Office staff, Code 8810:	0.52%	Per \$100 of Payroll
DEDUCTIBLE:	\$1000	PER CLAIM AS ASSESSED TO EACH TEAM BY THE LEAGUE MANAGEMENT
Overnight Delivery	\$13.00	Per Payroll Delivery as requested
Direct Debit Fee	\$5.00	Per Invoice
One-time Setup	\$495.00	

RPC Employer Services, Inc.
Service Agreement
SECURITY DEPOSIT

As additional security for performance of the obligation incurred, Client hereby grants to and deposits with RPC cash and/or an irrevocable standby letter of credit in an amount equal to one (1) estimated payroll cycle inclusive of gross payroll and all applicable federal, state and local taxes, as well as, the total estimated employee benefits paid, for a total of \$ (see NOTE below). Said sum shall be held by RPC until such time as the Agreement between the parties is terminated and any and all obligations, indebtedness, or other liabilities of Client have been satisfied or applied hereto.


RPC EMPLOYER SERVICES, INC.

By


Daniel J. D'Alio, President

NATIONAL INDOOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE, L.L.C.

By

 President

Carolyn Shiver, President

Do not cut payroll checks for teams unless wire transfers are received.

NOTE: Security deposit will be waived so long as wire transfer or direct debit payment is received by RPC on Wednesday prior to each Friday pay date. If this term is not met, then a Security Deposit will be necessary in order to continue service.

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

NATIONAL INDOOR FOOTBALL)	
LEAGUE, L.L.C.,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	02: 02cv0548
)	
R.P.C EMPLOYER SERVICES, INC., and)	
DAN J. D'ALIO,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

MEMORANDUM ORDER OF COURT

Presently pending before the Court for disposition are the following:

- PLAINTIFF'S MOTION IN LIMINE, with brief in support (*Document Nos. 62 and 65, respectively*), and the response in opposition filed by Defendants (*Document No. 63*); and
- DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF DAMAGES (*Document No. 61*), and the reply in opposition filed by Plaintiff (*Document No. 64*).

On March 13, 2006, the Court heard oral argument on these motions at which all parties were represented by counsel who presented and argued the issues skillfully and effectively.

After a review of the case law, the Federal Rules of Evidence, and the arguments of counsel, the Court finds and rules as follows:

EXHIBIT

tabbles®

B

PLAINTIFF'S FIRST MOTION IN LIMINE (DOCUMENT No. 62-1)

Plaintiff argues that because its claims are for common-law damages, the damages available to it are the full amount of damages, which are largely unpaid medical bills, rather than damages based upon reimbursement rates under the Ohio Workers' Compensation Act. *See Vandemark v. Southland Corp.*, 525 N.E.2d 1374 (Ohio 1988); *Harleysville Ins. Co. v. Wozniak*, 500 A.2d 872 (Pa. Super. 1985). Defendants respond that "the item of damage belongs to the employee who would be the player and not the employer team or league." Response at 2.

During the oral argument, counsel for Plaintiff represented that a single contract was entered into between the Plaintiff, the National Indoor Football League ("NIFL"), the teams (as members of the NIFL), and the players. As part of that contract, the NIFL contractually agreed to provide workers' compensation and medical coverage to the players. Therefore, Plaintiff argues that it has standing to pursue these claims because under the contract it is obligated to provide workers' compensation and medical coverage to the players.

The Court agrees. At first blush, the *Vandemark* and *Harleysville* decisions, upon which Plaintiff relies, appear to be distinguishable from the instant factual scenario. However, upon closer examination, the Court finds that the instant factual scenario closely resembles that presented in those two cases. In *Vandemark* and *Harleysville*, the employers either failed to process a claim for workers' compensation or failed to carry workers' compensation insurance. In both instances, the courts found that the essential nature of the claims fell "outside the scope of workers' compensation statutes" and, therefore, did not limit damages to the level of

reimbursement available under the applicable workers' compensation acts. *Vandemark*, 525 N.E.2d at 1376-77.

In the case *sub judice*, all teams are members of the NIFL, and the NIFL, on behalf of the players and teams, entered into a Service Agreement with Defendant R.P.C. Employer Services, Inc., to provide workers compensation and medical coverage for its players among other services. Undeniably, such coverage was not provided, although the parties dispute the reasons for the termination of the Service Agreement. Accordingly, like the courts in *Vandemark* and *Harleysville*, this Court finds and rules that the claims surrounding this litigation "fall outside the scope of workers' compensation statutes," and, therefore, Plaintiff may be entitled to recover the full amount of damages and medical bills if properly proven and Plaintiff will not be limited by the level of reimbursement available under the Ohio Workers' Compensation Act.

Accordingly, Plaintiff's First Motion in Limine is **GRANTED**.

PLAINTIFF'S SECOND MOTION IN LIMINE (*Document No. 62-2*)

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 803(6) and 902(11), Plaintiff requests that the Court permit the use of the individual players' medical records, invoices, and Federal Health Care Financing Administration ("HCFA") claim forms as evidence to prove its damages and costs. Defendant objects to this request arguing that "Plaintiff needs to present evidence of reasonableness, necessity and causation which would be necessary to prove damages." Resp. at 3.

Plaintiff counters that at trial it will establish that the alleged injuries of each player were sustained during the 2001 season and that Carolyn Shriver, President of the NIFL, will testify, if necessary, as to each player, his team and relationship to the NIFL, and the injuries that the players sustained. Further, Plaintiff argues that nothing precludes Defendant from challenging the reasonableness, necessity, and/or causation of the injuries and treatment reflected in the medical records and bills at issue. If Defendant desires to introduce counter evidence, it may; however, the Rules of Evidence permit said records to be admitted into evidence at trial.

Federal Rule of Evidence 803(6) sets forth an exception to the hearsay rule as follows:

(6) Records of regularly conducted activity. A memorandum report, record or data compilation, in any form, of acts, events, conditions, opinions, or diagnosis, made at or near the time by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge, if kept in the course of a regularly conducted business activity, and if it was the regular practice of that business activity to make the memorandum, report, record or data compilation, all as shown by the testimony of the custodian or other qualified witness, or by certification that complies with Rule 902(11), Rule 902(12), or a statute permitting certification, unless the source of information or the method or circumstances of preparation indicate lack of trustworthiness. The term "business" as used in this paragraph includes business, institution, association, profession, occupation, and calling of every kind, whether or not conducted for profit.

The federal business records exception is based on the Uniform Business Records as Evidence Act, but is more expansive and allows the admission of opinions or diagnoses in business records.

Fed.R. Evid. 803(6).

Federal Rule of Evidence 902(11) (Self Authentication) provides as follows:

Certified domestic records of regularly conducted activity. The original or a duplicate of a domestic record of regularly conducted activity that would be admissible under Rule 803(6) if accompanied by a written declaration of its custodian or other qualified person, in a manner complying with any Act of Congress or rule prescribed by the Supreme Court pursuant to statutory authority, certifying that the record -

(A) was made at or near the time of the occurrence set forth by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge of those matters;

(B) was kept in the course of the regularly conducted activity; and

(C) was made by the regularly conducted activity as a regular practice.

A party intending to offer a record into evidence under this paragraph must provide written notice of that intention to all adverse parties and must make the record and declaration available for inspection sufficiently in advance of their offer into evidence to provide an adverse party with a fair opportunity to challenge them.

Fed. R. Evid. 902(11).

Plaintiff has represented to the Court that it has provided to Defendants the written notice required by Federal Rule of Evidence 902(11) and has supplied the “majority of the actual HCFA forms and medical records to the Defendants.” Mot. at ¶ 3. Defendants respond that the records they received are not complete, *to wit*: some are simply bills without any medical record support.

The Court is cognizant of the fact that this case presents major obstacles and issues to both parties due to the volume of players and medical records and bills involved in the litigation. However, requiring Plaintiff to bring into Court all of the various medical providers, who are located all across the United States, would be unduly burdensome to the Plaintiff, and this situation appears to typify the reason why Federal Rules of Evidence 803(6) and 902(11) were adopted and promulgated.

Accordingly, the Court rules that Plaintiff will be permitted to introduce into evidence certain documents that may be used to establish its damages without actual testimony from the medical provider(s). However, Plaintiff is forewarned that the requirements of Federal Rule of Evidence 803(6) and 902(11), as well as all other Federal Rules of Evidence, will be strictly enforced and each document will be assessed for admissibility, including trustworthiness, upon presentation.

With these limitations, Plaintiff's Second Motion in Limine is **GRANTED**.

DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF DAMAGES (*Document No. 61*)

Defendants request that the Court exclude evidence of damages relating to unpaid medical expenses and wage loss or, in the alternative, limit the same as follows:

- (i) Plaintiff cannot seek to recovery for any amounts beyond the \$31,800.50 it has alleged to have paid in medical claims;
- (ii) Plaintiff cannot assert any damages for medical expenses incurred by players during pre-season games;
- (iii) Plaintiff cannot assert any damages for unpaid medical expenses or losses incurred after April 17, 2001, the effective termination date of the service agreement; and
- (iv) Plaintiff should be excluded from providing any evidence of unpaid medical expenses or wage losses thirty (30) days past the date of the termination of the service agreement.

The Court has previously addressed the issue of the evidence of damages and thus, Defendants' request is **DENIED**. *See* discussion on Plaintiff's First Motion in Limine *supra*. Therefore, the Court will address seriatim Defendants' alternative grounds for relief.

As discussed *supra*, Plaintiff alleges that it was contractually obligated to provide workers' compensation and medical coverage to the players. According to Plaintiff's counsel, the NIFL has made promises to medical providers and players that it will cover the medical expenses incurred by the players. Therefore, Plaintiff is not limited to seeking recovery of only the \$31,800.50 it has already paid, but rather Plaintiff may seek recovery for all medical damages it has incurred and reasonably expects to incur as a result of the alleged unlawful termination of the Service Agreement.

Next, Defendants argue that Plaintiff cannot assert any damages for medical expenses incurred by players during pre-season games. The Service Agreement specifically states that the effective starting date is "based on each team's first game of the 2001 season according to the official published schedule, which shall be made a part of this agreement." The parties are in agreement that the first game of the 2001 season occurred on March 30, 2001. Accordingly, the Court finds and rules that Plaintiff cannot assert any damages for medical expenses incurred by players prior to March 30, 2001.

Defendants' last requested limitations revolve around a determination of when the Service Agreement ended. Plaintiff argues that Defendants unilaterally and unlawfully terminated the contract because they knew that they would not be able to provide coverage. Defendants argue that the Service Agreement was terminated because the Plaintiff was in material breach.

The questions of material breach and effective termination date of the Service Agreement are clearly issues of fact for the jury to determine. Therefore, the Court **DENIES** Defendants' requests to limit Plaintiff to any damages for unpaid medical expenses or losses incurred after April 17, 2001, and/or preclude Plaintiff from introducing into evidence unpaid medical expenses and wage losses "thirty (30) days past the date of the termination of the service agreement."

So **ORDERED** this 16th day of March, 2006.

BY THE COURT:

s/Terrence F. McVerry
United States District Court Judge

cc: Forrest B. Fordham, III, Esquire
Email: ffordhamlaw@aol.com

Timothy C. Leventry, Esquire
Leventry & Haschak
Email: tleventry@lhrklaw.com

Bernard C. Caputo, Esquire
Email: Bcaputolaw@aol.com

Michael J. Seymour, Esquire
Email: mjseymour@covad.net